

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 IO-10 STR-01 /073 W

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R 222118Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9136

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 0157

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OAS, PFOR, HA

SUBJECT: HAITI COOL TO VENEZUELAN OVERTURES ON TRADE BILL

REF: STATE 013390

1. FONMIN BRUTUS TOLD ME JANUARY 21 THAT GOH HAD JUST RECEIVED NOTE FROM VENEZUELAN GOVT URGING IT TO SUPPORT VENEZUELAN CONDEMNATION OF PROVISIONS OF TRADE BILL RELATING TO OPEC MEMBERS' INELIGIBILITY FOR GSP.
 2. BRUTUS INDICATED HE WAS UNIMPRESSED BY VENEZUELAN ARGUEMENTS, WHOLLY DISINCLINED TO FOLLOW WHAT HE TERMED "CONFRONTATION" TACTICS WITH USG, AND MOST RELUCTANT TO FOLLOW VENEZUELAN LEAD ON THIS ISSUE. GOOD HAITIAN/US RELATIONS CONTINUE TO BE MAJOR GOH PRIORITY, HE SAID, AND HAITI'S INTERESTS WERE BY NO MEANS CONGRUENT WITH WHAT SOME ARA STATES MIGHT AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT PERCEIVE THEIRS TO BE.
 3. I POINTED OUT THAT THE FUROR OVER EXCLUSION PROVISION HAD OBSCURED THE MUCH MORE FUNDAMENTAL AND POSITIVE FEATURES OF THE TRADE BILL OF DIRECT BENEFIT TO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. I NOTED ALSO THAT ADMINISTRATION HAD OPPOSED THIS PROVISION AND WOULD BRING TO ATTENTION OF CONGRESS SPECIAL INEQUITIES
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CAUSED BY THIS LEGISLATION.

4. BRUTUS REITERATED HAITI'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO JUDGE ITS INTERESTS COOLLY, WITHOUT BEING SWEEPED ALONG BY VARIOUS LATIN AMERICAN PRESSURES CONDUCTIVE TO TENSIONS WITH THE USG, AND SAID THAT HE WAS CONVINCED HIS REMARKS FULLY REFLECTED PRESIDENT DUVALIER'S FEELINGS.

5. AS POSSIBLE AID TO BRUTUS IN PREPARING REPLY TO VENEZUELAN, I HAVE SENT HIM EXCELLENT STATEMENT ON TRADE ACT MADE BY ACTING USREP FORD IN OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL JANUARY 20 (REFTEL).
ISHAM

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Message Attributes

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05 JUL 2006

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